

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7568

BILL NUMBER: HB 1601

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 16, 2009

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Public Questions.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Richardson

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: ___**GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: *Special Election Costs*- The bill provides that a political subdivision shall pay for all election supplies, equipment, and expenses of a special election held for the voters of the political subdivision at a time other than the time of a primary, municipal, or general election.

Special Election Dates- The bill provides that a special election may be held only on the: (1) date of a general election; (2) date of a primary election; (3) first Tuesday after the first Monday in May of an odd-numbered year; or (4) first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of an odd-numbered year.

Certifying Public Question on Ballot- The bill provides that a county voter registration office (CVRO) (rather than the county auditor) certifies to the county election board (CEB) when a public question regarding the issuance of bonds by a political subdivision is required to be placed on the ballot.

Effective Date: July 1, 2009.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Special Election Costs*- If a special election were held in an odd-non-municipal election year, the municipality holding a special election would pay for all expenses associated with the election. Currently, the county pays for local government election expenses and cannot charge a municipality for salaries of board of registration members, chief clerks, and assistants to the board.

Special Election Dates- Placing special elections in combination with primary and general elections would reduce costs from holding a special election separately.

Certifying Public Question on Ballot- This provision would switch certification procedures between offices. Overall, this provision should minimally affect local expenditures.

Background Information- Expenses to run an election include: precinct election board per diem, rental of a facility for polling (if necessary), and/or voting equipment (if necessary.) Based on a small sample of Indiana counties, per diem for election board members range from \$65 to \$150 for inspectors and from \$40 to \$100 for judges, clerks, and sheriffs.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: County election board, circuit court clerk, county auditor, county voter registration office.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.